

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

Call to Order: Chair David Howard, on January 16, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. David Howard, Chair (R)
Sen. Cary Smith, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)
Sen. Jen Gross (D)
Sen. Steve Hinebaugh (R)
Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R)
Sen. Albert Olszewski (R)
Sen. Diane Sands (D)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Julie Emge, Committee Secretary
Alexis Sandru, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 96, 1/11/2017
SB 83, 1/11/2017

HEARING ON SB 96

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:14 Sen. Cary Smith (R), SD 27, opened the hearing on SB 96, Right to shop act for health care services.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:13:24 Kris Hansen, chief legal counsel, State Auditors Office
00:16:22 Cori Cook, vice president, Employee Benefit Management Services (EBMS)
00:27:56 Bruce Knudsen, executive vice president, Montana Automobile Dealers Association

00:36:01 Jim Edwards, representing himself

[EXHIBIT\(phs11a01\)](#)

00:43:56 Richard Miltenberger, representing himself
00:48:40 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony:

00:49:52 Marilyn Bartlett, Health Care and Benefits Division Administrator, Department of Administration

01:00:46 Bob Olsen, vice president, Montana Hospital Association

[EXHIBIT\(phs11a02\)](#)

01:06:28 Chair Howard

01:06:53 Aimee Grmoljez, Billings Clinic

[EXHIBIT\(phs11a03\)](#)

01:11:59 John Doran, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT)

01:17:52 Chair Howard

01:18:02 Jean Branscum, chief executive officer, Montana Medical Association

[EXHIBIT\(phs11a04\)](#)

01:22:34 Jennifer Hensley, PacificSource Health Plans (PSHP)

01:30:29 Chair Howard

01:30:38 Kevin Pitzer, St. Peter's Hospital

[EXHIBIT\(phs11a05\)](#)

01:37:24 Chair Howard

01:37:39 Bruce Spencer, America's Health Insurance Plans

01:39:08 Aiden Myhre, Kalispell Regional Medical Center

01:40:42 Mike Foster, Catholic Hospitals of Montana

01:42:12 Jessie Luther, Benefis Health System

01:43:06 Bill Warden, Bozeman Health

01:43:26 Mark Taylor, Montana Hospital Association

Informational Testimony:

01:44:29 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:44:56 Sen. Gross
01:45:37 Sen. C. Smith
01:46:47 Sen. Gross
01:47:32 Ms. Hensley, PSHP
01:48:47 Sen. Gross
01:48:53 Sen. Moore
01:50:39 Mr. Doran, BCBSMT
01:51:30 Chair Howard
01:52:25 Mr. Edwards, Self
01:53:13 Chair Howard
01:56:36 Ms. Cook, EBMS

Closing by Sponsor:

01:57:37 Sen. C. Smith

HEARING ON SB 83

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:11:01 Sen. Roger Webb (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 83, Volunteer Health Services Act.

[EXHIBIT\(phs11a06\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

02:17:07 Eve Franklin, Montana Optometric Association
02:18:08 Jean Branscum, Montana Medical Association (MMA)

Opponents' Testimony:

02:19:27 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)
02:23:01 Chair Howard

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:23:16 Sen. Moore
02:25:14 Mr. Smith, MTLA
02:25:27 Sen. Sands
02:25:43 Ms. Branscum, MMA

Closing by Sponsor:

02:26:35 Sen. Webb

Committee Business:

02:30:44 Chair Howard

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:29 PM

Julie Emge, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([phs11aad.pdf](#))